

Title: Need to protect the interests of local fishermen by banning foreign trawlers.

SHRI P. MOHAN (MADURAI): Sir, the foreign trawlers with latest fishing techniques are active in our territorial waters and amassing sea fish of all varieties with ease.

These trawlers and mechanised boats are destroying many varieties of fishes, eggs and young ones and thereby playing havoc with marine fisheries and also causing pollution and ecological imbalance.

As the seafaring of the fishermen folk, of late, is not rewarding, many have started abandoning the sea-going. At this juncture, they have been ordered to keep off the sea for 45 days with immediate effect.

I request the Government to ensure that indiscriminate exploitation of sea wealth is stopped and marine fisheries and ecological system should be preserved. Lastly fishermen are to be ensured of proper livelihood and they may be considered for a dole out during the ordered sea holiday.